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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Timing of New Legislation on Intelligence

1. Problem

To enhance the likelihood of early adoption of legislation arising from recommendations of the Senate and House Select Committee, or proposals from other Committees, which relates to the future organization and conduct of U.S. foreign intelligence activities.

2. Position of the Congressional Committees

- a. Both the Senate and House Select Committees are expected to propose legislation as a result of their extensive investigation of U.S. intelligence activities, but the thrust of such recommendations is not yet apparent. A dozen resolutions now pending before the Congress focus on the question of establishing a joint committee for intelligence oversight, or separate committees in each House.
- b. Over the past several years, 200 or so bills have been floated in the Congress concerning the Intelligence Community and the CIA in particular. None has been given serious attention by the Congress until now. The climate has changed, but even so, considerable uncertainty exists in the Congress as to what is needed and how to go about it.
- c. Among the subjects of possible legislation are: Curbs on domestic activities of U.S. foreign intelligence agencies; covert action; excessive secrecy; protection of vital secrets; role of economic intelligence in the national security intelligence structure; relationship between military intelligence organizations and the CIA; legislative and oversight jurisdiction within the Congress; and oversight, itself.

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